

Louisville Democrat.

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SATURDAY..... JAN. 31, 1857.

A NEW FEATURE—THE DAILY DEMOCRAT FOR SUNDAY!

We have considered for some time the propriety of issuing the DAILY DEMOCRAT late on Saturday night, closing up the news of the week to the hour of publication, and furnishing our readers with a full and reliable summary of all that is of local importance, and by mail and telegraph, to the hour of publication.

The transactions of Saturday—the closing day of a week's business—and Sunday intervening before our issue of Monday, renders the news stale to our patrons who are not supplied with a Sunday issue. In all the principal cities North, South, East, and West, a Sunday paper is issued late on Saturday night—it has grown to be indispensable to the public—an institution! We believe, also, that by this change our printers will be greatly accommodated, as it will enable them to dispense with Sunday work entirely, whereas, under the old system, they were obliged to be at their posts early every Sabbath evening, and continue until midnight.

Under the new system, we shall furnish as late telegraphic intelligence from all quarters, as we have heretofore published Monday morning, river news, items by the mail, and everything of local importance.

The DEMOCRAT will not be issued on Monday morning, as heretofore, the Sunday issue being substituted therefor. Our friends and patrons, and the public generally, who wish to avail themselves of the columns of Sunday morning's paper, should send in their favors by four o'clock Saturday afternoon.

All persons who wish the DEMOCRAT left at their stores, business houses and dwellings, can be accommodated by leaving their address and locality either at the clerk's desk or with the carriers. The paper costs TEN CENTS per week, and is delivered promptly to all portions of the city.

Corruption Committee.

Our readers are aware that a committee is now sitting in Washington City, inquiring into the charges of bribery and corruption that have been made against some honorables. A correspondent of the New York Times first sounded the alarm, and made some very positive statements on the subject. He has been before the committee, and refuses to give names, he being bound to honor to secrecy. Congress has passed an act to extort answers from unwilling tips; but the knowing correspondent still persists in his refusal, and dares fines and imprisonments before he will disclose. It is quite likely that he keeps his secret well, because he has none to keep. He may decline to tell, after his startling tales, what facts he has, they may discredit his revelations in general terms.

For our part, we think very little of these startling disclosures about bribery and corruption. We have no doubt that some of the honorables love money and need it, and would be a good deal tempted by the glittering dust; perhaps some of them might take fees, and a few of the weak brethren might be bribed outright, like vulgar criminals. Extensive schemes of seduction may be set on foot to get a partial verdict for some selfish project; but such things have always been, and will occur again. We have a good many wonders about the corruptions of the times, but the times are just like old times. There was a golden age, tradition says, some time in the past, when men were all wiser and better than present; but the further we trace history back the further we get from that golden age. This generation, with all its sins and follies—its mormonism and Know-Nothingism, is no worse than others, and no better than it ought to be.

Perhaps, a blundering operator or two, and an unscrupulous honorable or two may be caught; but most likely no revelation will be made of corruption, beyond equivocal acts and expressions that crafty managers will try to explain away. The rogues at Washington is not of that vulgar sort that is easily caught, or punished. But we are confident that the rascality is confined to a few. The mass of Congressmen have too much to lose, to venture upon criminal practices. Human nature is not made of very reliable material, but it is not half as bad as the disapproving and misanthropic would make out, nor half as good as the hopeful and enthusiastic would have us believe. The promptness and unanimity with which Congress has taken up the subject, and adopted measures to expose criminal and corrupt practices, not only shows the sentiment of the body, but what they know to be a sound public opinion at home. Here we would hope that no Democrat, or member elected by Democrats, may be implicated in any of these transactions; for in that case it would all be charged upon the Democratic party. The factions would all go to stealing, for they will deem it right, inasmuch as a Democrat did it. They will have an excuse for bribery in all time to come. As soon as it is charged upon them, they will say a Democrat did the like; that they were provoked by the example of a Democrat; that they never would have thought of it, if it had not been for such an example. It is of the utmost importance that Democrats should keep their skirts clear of any just-suspicions, for upon them hangs the political virtue of the country. The factions will not undertake to imitate the good that Democrats do, but what is just to their taste. Whilst they have nothing but errors and sins of their own, they will adopt as virtues any shortcomings of the Democrats, and plead the example as an entire sanction and justification.

But, this refusal of witnesses to testify, strikes us as anything but creditable. After a witness has proclaimed positively his knowledge of gross corruption, and published it to the world, to the disgrace of the federal Legislature, his refusal to give facts comes with an ill grace. If he was in honor bound to secrecy, why did he publish such charges? What right has an honest man to be the confidant of rogues? What right has he to publish that great crimes are committed, and then refuse to reveal his reasons for such a publication? The natural conclusion is, that, if he will tell nothing, he has nothing to tell, and that his publication was at first false and slanderous; and that the author was, to say the least, reckless in making charges that he was not prepared to stand by. Making all allowances, such conduct is highly culpable.

Despair of the Republic.

It is very natural that disappointed factions should consider the present condition of the United States as very unsatisfactory, and indulge in gloomy forebodings of the future. No wonder they are dissatisfied with politics; a man ought to be dissatisfied with such as theirs. After a man has lived to mature age, and derived all the profit that experience could give him, and come to the conclusion that the world is not to be trusted, and that the voters of the country must be taken into the dark, sworn, sworn, and watched, in order to insure their fidelity to their own interests, it is no wonder that he is alarmed when all the swearing and watching have failed. And, indeed, we consider it a bad symptom, that men in this country

should become torpid at foreigners, after we have grown to a mighty confederation; and it is still worse, that after all the lessons, and more than half a century's experience, men should get scared at the Pope, and swear to disenfranchise a whole class of men on account of their religion. Do they think that other countries, that prescribe men for their birth-place, and their religious faith, have done better than we have, that we should change our practice and adopt theirs?

We say this Know-Nothingism is a bad symptom in its organization and its creed. The excuse for its secrecy is exceedingly suspicious.

The advocates of the dark lantern tell us that they adopted secrecy to protect themselves from the despotism of the old parties, until they had strength enough to protect themselves. So they assume that it was unsafe, in this free country, to trust the truth to their fellow-citizens.

The latter could not be trusted to discuss the new doctrines to be promulgated. They have no confidence in free speech and a free press, and have to let our institutions by secret craft and management.

The very excuse is the severest condemnation of the whole movement. A party that thus distrusts their fellow-men, need not complain if they are distrusted in turn.

The very assumption, and the acts under it, are inconsistent with the peace and order of society.

It substitutes management and craft for open and manly discussion, leaving the result in full confidence to the virtue and good judgment of the people.

No wonder that those who think there is a necessity for such proceedings despair of the Republic. If the excuse for such means were good, it would show that our institutions are a failure; that its foundations, laid in confidence in the people, are insecure; that open, frank discussion, and open movements, must give place to management and craft. But whilst this is a bad symptom, its signal failure and condemnation make amends for it.

The people have vindicated their credit, and our institutions by an almost unanimous verdict against Know-Nothingism. It is very natural, however, that a genuine Know-Nothing should feel gloomy. His experiment to save the country has failed; his very last resort to swearing and watching has failed. The two horrors that have afflicted him still glare upon him in the most formidable proportions. The times are out of joint, and his quack nostrums to cure, the patient refuses to take; sadly he must feel. So the old Federalists, fled when the country refused their wholesome counsel. They feel sure that the country is ruined, and that the character that characterized their leader, Hamilton, was confirmed, because the people would not trust them.

Well, we advise the poor fellows to be contented; they have offered their panacea, and the patient will not take it; so they are not to blame. The Union intends to get along without their counsel, and they can stand back; when the country needs their services, they will ask for it. The best they can do is to retire from politics in disgust, and let evils alone they can't cure. This is the best advice we can give them, and if they will take it, it will save them a great deal of vexation.

OUR EXCHANGES have been delayed this week, and we have no late dates from the South or West; but we give the latest we have available to gather.

MISS ANNIE INCE was at Charleston last dates, and "Lucretia Borgia" was in rehearsal. Miss and Mrs. Bourcier closed their engagement at the St. Charles, New Orleans, last Saturday evening. Miss Eliza Logan was also playing at the Gaetey.

MISS MAGGIE MITCHELL is playing at the Memphis Theater, at the Nashville last Monday evening. Mrs. M. Vance had a company at the New Opera House, and Mrs. John Compton, has been playing at the St. Louis, and Edwin Booth at the People's, in St. Louis.

Mrs. FANNY KENPEL is giving Shakespearean readings at Young's Hall, in Milwaukee, Wis. J. W. Wallack, Jr., is at the Chicago Theater; and the Keller Troupe, at North's Amphitheater. Miss Charlotte Cranstoun is playing at the Athenaeum, Indianapolis; she mostly does male characters. The Florida is to open on Feb. 15, at the National, and Rosalie Dargel's English Opera Company closed last night at Wood's.

At the Theater in Dayton, the Society Frohsinn, have produced a romantic Spanish spectacle, in four acts, entitled Preciosa. The Richings close their re-engagement to-night at the Columbus Theater. The novice, announced last week as about to appear in Cleveland, has made his debut at the National; his name is J. R. Fitzgerald. The Florida is to open on Feb. 15, at the National, and Mrs. Annie Sonnenburg, Mrs. John Compton, has been playing at the St. Louis, and Edwin Booth at the People's, in St. Louis.

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Local Affairs.

R eligious Notices.

Among the extraordinary features of the Sunday Democrat will be its religious intelligence. Contrary to our custom heretofore, we will publish notices of a religious character—such as appointments to preach, to deliver moral lectures, &c., on the Sabbath—free of charge. Indeed, we will be thankful to our friends of the different churches, if they will favor us with that description of information.

THE SUNDAY DEMOCRAT.—The publication of the regular edition of the Democrat for Sunday will be commenced to-morrow. It will contain a unusual variety of reading matter—much that is adapted to Sabbath, the latest news, general miscellany, local sketches of interest, and local news, to the hour of going to press.

Advertisers should bear in mind that the Democrat will have an extraordinary circulation on Sunday—supplying, as it will, the place of all the regular city dailies on that day—which consideration will make it unrivaled as an advertising medium.

SIGNORITA BERTINI.—Intending to speak of another person altogether, whose name we put down in our running chirography, the printer yesterday morning made us represent Signorita Bertini as having been engaged in a professional dance. Of course it was not our intention to speak of the charming vocalist of that name. Aside from a taste in the matter of amusement altogether averse to the mazes of the dance, the Signorita is a member of a religious denomination, the tenets of which prohibit her participation in an entertainment of the kind, even as an amateur. She spent the evening referred to in company with a number of female friends in the ladies' parlor at the Louisville Hotel, altogether oblivious to the amusing scene attempted to be described.

By reference to the card in another column, it will be seen that Signorita Bertini will give one of her much admired variety concerts at Mozart Hall on Tuesday evening, and the lovers of highly artistic music should all see and hear her.

O F F R E D Y.—Without the least indication of falling weather at the time, we stated Thursday morning, that it would rain on Friday. Thousands of persons who have been in the habit of confiding in our advice and judgment, immediately scrutinized the weather suspiciously and shook their heads ominously, while others, with less reverence for experience and appreciation of science, openly allowed that we would certainly be wrong for once. But Friday came, and very naturally came along the rain, just as we said it would. Indeed, our prophecy was more than fulfilled, for we not only had the rain, but were favored with both sleet and snow. And yet, with all this evidence of our judgment and infallibility, there are doubtless many persons in this community who do not fully believe in us. Well, we are not disposed to complain—prophets were never very popular in their own appearance would be hailed with greater enthusiasm.

C O M P L E M E N T A R Y B E N E F I T T O M I S D O R A S H A W.—The complimentary benefit tendered to Miss Dora Shaw by her numerous admirers in this city, will come off at the Theater Monday evening. We received the correspondence at too late an hour last evening to present it to the reader this morning. The public will be pleased to hear that Miss Shaw has selected those admirable pieces, "Ingoram," and the "Honeymoon," which there is nothing in which her appearance would be hailed with greater enthusiasm.

H illiard, Summers & Co.—The old firm of Brannan & Summers expires by limitation on the 1st of February. A new firm, consisting of Isaac H. Hilliard, E. H. Summers, and James Dailes, of New Orleans, and John S. Brannan, of Louisville, under the firm and name of Hilliard, Summers & Co., for the purpose of continuing the cotton factorage and commission business is announced in our columns this morning.

SIX THOUSAND FIVE HUNDRED DOLLARS IN H AND.—It is said that Messrs. Tiffany & Co., sold, last week, a single diamond, to be worn in a ring, for \$6,500 cash! It was the central stone of a diamond bracelet, which had been sold for some time past at their establishment.

The lady who wears this ring has a hard won'st ring, which she has given to her husband, and it is said that he has given it to his wife. She has given it to her mother, and it is said that she has given it to her daughter. She has given it to her son, and it is said that he has given it to his wife. She has given it to her daughter-in-law, and it is said that she has given it to her son-in-law. She has given it to her granddaughter, and it is said that she has given it to her grandson. She has given it to her great-grandson, and it is said that he has given it to his wife. She has given it to her great-granddaughter, and it is said that she has given it to her great-grandson.

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T HE DEATH OF THE CHIEF OF THE KAWS.—The Western Independence Dispatch, of the 22d, says: Keashings, head chief of the Kaw or Kansas Indians, died at the Kaw camp, one mile from this city, on last Saturday night, and was buried the following day with the usual ceremonial of the tribe. A male member of the tribe came to one of our undertakers and procured a coffin, returned to camp, and sent a squaw to carry it out. Keashings was known to every inhabitant of this country. His horse, according to the custom of the tribe, was killed upon his grave, in order that he might not find himself in that untried world.

A BIG LUMP OF LAKE SUPERIOR SILVER.—Mr. Whiting, clerk of the Bank of Gen. in Toledo, on the 15th instant, says that a mass of pure, solid silver, weighing fifty-four pounds, had just been taken from the Minnesota Mine. At its current market value, \$7 per ounce, this mass would be worth \$1,040.—*Chicago Press*, 25th inst.

D EATH'S DOINGS.—Death has been busy in our midst of late, and within a brief period almost every circle has felt the chilling touch of the icy hand. We are pained to learn that the death of our old friend, James McGeehan. He died yesterday, at the advanced age of eighty-five.

B R IDGE WASHD AWAY.—We are sorry to learn that the bridge over Beechy Fork, on the track of the Louisville and Nashville Railroad, has been swept away by the ice. The structure was not quite complete, although the work had so far progressed as to render the loss a severe one.

N EW CHURCH OPENED.—St. Andrew's Episcopal Church, situated on Chestnut, between Ninth and Tenth streets, will be opened for the first time for Divine service, to-morrow morning, at 11 o'clock. The public are invited to attend. Seats all free.

T HE WEATHER.—The ice continued to thaw yesterday, and in the afternoon we had a slight fall of rain. In the evening the rain varied in intensity, which melted after it fell. Last night considerable snow fell, some of which remained upon the ground.

P OLICE COURT YESTERDAY.—In the absence of Judge Johnston, Mayor Barbee presided over the Police Court yesterday. There were but two trifling cases on the docket, and the Mayor exhibited his *pro tempore* competency by dismissing them both.

B EHIND TIME.—The down passenger train over the Louisville and Frankfort Railroad, due at noon yesterday, was delayed in its arrival by some trivial, but unavoidable accident, and nearly two hours—arriving between 1 and 2 o'clock.

G ERMAN THEATER.—We understand that a talented company of German performers give a theatrical entertainment at Concert Hall, in Fifth street this evening. Our German friends should encourage the enterprise.

E XPLI CATION OF A LEGISLATOR.—The House of Representatives of the Ohio Legislature, Thursday afternoon, took final action in the case of John P. Slough, of Cincinnati, expelling him for his assault upon Cadwell.

A T TORNAY.—A private family, living in a pleasant neighborhood, within a few minutes walk of the Post-office, have a room unoccupied, which they will let, with board. Inquire at this office.

A T TORNAY.—We learn that Philip Gray, Esq., and Dr. Alexa...er, old citizens of Louisville, are seriously ill, but their recovery is considered extremely doubtful.

J OHN AKERS.—John Akers, residing on Thirteenth street, having the small-pox, wandered off from his home, some ten squares on Thursday night, in a delirious fit.

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S OME THING NEW!—The Dubuque (Iowa) Reporter, of a late date, contains the names of twenty-six persons who froze to death in Minnesota and Iowa. It says that upwards of fifty have perished the same way in the twenty-days past.

N EW PAPER IN MADISON.—We are pleased to learn that our old friend Lusk, late of Lexington, Ind., has established a Democratic paper at Madison, which he calls the Madison Democrat. Success to him and it.

E LIOT BROTHERS.—The anniversary of the birth-day of Thomas Paine was celebrated by his admirers, in Cincinnati, at Smith & Nixon's Hall, on Thursday evening.

W HOLESALE AND RETAIL CIGAR DEALERS.—Nos. 497 Main street, between Third and Fourth, where you can find the best Cigars, &c., at a price less than any other house in the West. We give a 10% discount.

A. M. HANCOCK, Attorney at Law, LOUISVILLE.—At my office, on Sixth Street, near the corner of Sixth and Main, I have a large office, well furnished, and well adapted for business.

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